

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

<b>Application No.:</b>	10/828,744	<b>Examiner:</b>	Nelson, Keri J.
<b>Filing Date:</b>	April 20, 2004	<b>Art Unit:</b>	3772
<b>First Inventor:</b>	Tracy E. Grim	<b>Customer No.:</b>	23364
<b>Attorney No.:</b>	GRIM3001/JJC/KDW	<b>Confirm. No.:</b>	5476
<b>For:</b>	<b>SPLINT OR SUPPORT WITH QUICK LOCATION TECHNIQUE</b>		

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION  
OF DECEMBER 21, 2010**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 21, 2010 in the above-identified application. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

A petition to extend the period for reply by one month is concurrently filed.

**AMENDMENT**

**Amendments to the Claims**

The claims are amended as shown on the following pages under the heading AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS. The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application and is intended to supersede all prior versions of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.